

Union Area School District
New Castle, Pennsylvania
Public Board Meeting
Union Area Board of School Directors

The Union Area Board of School Directors met in public session on January 17, 2024 in the Middle/High School Board Room for a Regular Meeting. The following persons were in attendance:

Board Members:

Mr. Arin Biondi
Dr. Michael Hink
Ms. Debra Allebach
Mr. John Bertolino
Mr. Jay Cole
Ms. Roxanne Exposito
Mr. Chaz Macri
Mr. Richard Mangino
Ms. Valarie Peoples

Administrators:

Dr. Michael Ross, Superintendent
Dr. Scott O'Donnell, Curriculum Director
Mr. Rob Nogay, MS/HS Principal

Ms. Samantha Lavery, Business Mgr. /Board Sec

Media: New Castle News

Solicitor: Mr. Lou Perrotta, Esq.

Board Not Present: 0

Public: None

Call to Order

Biondi called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Biondi requested those in attendance to join in the salute to the flag at 6:30 P.M.

Executive Session 6:31 PM

Biondi announced that the Union Area School Board will meet in executive session. Executive Session ended at 7:07 PM.

Public Comment on Agenda Items (7:07 PM)

Biondi called for public comment. There was none.

Student Council Report (7:07 PM) – Dr. Ross introduced the Elementary Student Council to update the Board on current and past fundraisers for the 2023-24 school year.

Informational Items (7:24 PM)

- A. School Board Recognition Month – Dr. Ross thanked those who volunteer for the School Board as well as Nutrition Inc., UA EA, and Union Memorial Elementary School who provided food and refreshments.

Operations 7:25 PM

Hink moved to approve the following consent operational agenda items as listed:

- A. Approve the minutes of the Re-Organization and Regular Meetings on December 6, 2023 as presented.
- B. Approve the December 2023 Financial & Treasurer's Report as presented.
- C. Approve the Purchase Order List from December 5, 2023 through January 15, 2024 in the amount of \$58,985.46.
- D. Approve the Cafeteria Invoices dated December 11, 2023 and January 8, 2024 in the amounts of \$50,039.70 and \$27,939.77 respectively.
- E. Approve the checklist from December 7, 2023 through January 17, 2024 in the amount of \$403,786.05.

Peoples seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Hink moved to approve the attached exonerations from the Lawrence County Assessment Office as provided. Macri seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Exposito moved to approve resolution 2024-001 LERTA (Commercial) made on January 4, 2024 by Charter Central LLC (Taco Bell). Allebach seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Bertolino moved to retroactively approve the LERTA Resolution for residential new construction from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2027 as presented. Cole seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve the Agreement made with McClure Realty as presented. Exposito seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Exposito moved to approve the Right of Entry Resolution No. 2024-003 as presented. Allebach seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Bertolino moved to refund \$10.00 overpayment of Per Capita Tax to Phillip Sawyer of 107 Angela Lane, New Castle, PA 16101. Hink seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Mangino moved to authorize Payment No. 4 to Platinum Roofing LLC in the amount of \$285,659. Exposito seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to waive the liquidated damages of \$100.00 per day for a total of \$15,300 to Platinum Roofing LLC. Peoples seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Exposito moved to approve the Board Secretary to seek sealed bids for a new wheelchair van and to utilize Access Funds to purchase. Mangino seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to place the following required reports on public display in the business office for a period of no less than 28 days beginning January 18, 2024.

- Professional Development Plan Act 48 for the years 2024-2027
- Induction Plan (Chapter 49) for the years 2024-2027
- Comprehensive Plan for the years 2024-2027
- Gifted Education Plan for the years 2024-2027

Peoples seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Exposito moved to approve the following new courses for the 2024-2025 school year:

- PIAA Officiating
- Introduction to Theater and Drama
- American History through Film
- Production Design and Entrepreneurship I through IV
- Construction and Home Maintenance I through IV
- Young Adult Literature
- Current Events

Allebach seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve awarding PE Credit for high school athletics as presented beginning in the 2024-2025 school year. Cole seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve the 2024 Committee Appointments as presented. Mangino seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Personnel Agenda Items

Hink moved to accept the resignation of Ms. Kelly Finley as a paraprofessional, effective January 2, 2024. Macri seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Cole moved to accept the resignation of Ms. Debbie Fusco as a paraprofessional, effective May 31, 2024 for the purpose of retirement. Bertolino seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Exposito moved to accept the resignation of Mr. Jacob Jendrysik from Jr. High Baseball Coach, effective January 12, 2024. Cole seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to hire Ms. Rachel Santypal as a paraprofessional pending receipt of all proper paperwork and made effective January 17, 2024. Mangino seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Bertolino moved to hire Ms. Taylor Blom as a paraprofessional pending receipt of all proper paperwork and made effective January 17, 2024. Cole seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Exposito moved to hire Ms. Carla Brown as a paraprofessional pending receipt of all proper paperwork and made effective January 17, 2024. Hink seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to place Ms. Rebecca Mahoney on the 2023-2024 Substitute School Nurse List, pending receipt of all proper paperwork. Peoples seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Mangino moved to place Ms. Shari Comianos on the 2023-2024 Substitute School Nurse List, pending receipt of all proper paperwork. Cole seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Cole moved to approve Marcie Young as the Head Varsity Girls Volleyball Coach, effective January 17, 2024 at a stipend of \$4,500, pending receipt of all proper paperwork. Peoples seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve Don Preuhs as the Jr. High Girls Softball Coach at a stipend of \$2,325, pending receipt of all proper paperwork. Peoples seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Exposito moved to approve Mr. Braden Corliss as a long-term substitute through Kelly Services for the remainder of the school year, pending receipt of all proper paperwork. Mangino seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Allebach moved to approve the FMLA leave request made by Linda O'Neill starting on December 1, 2023. Peoples seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Mangino moved to approve the FMLA leave request made by Marcia Trocci starting on February 15, 2024. Macri seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

New Business (7:51 PM)

There was no new business brought before the Board.

Adjourn

Peoples moved to adjourn the regular Meeting of the Union Area School Board at 7:51 PM. Hink seconded (9 yes). The motion carried.

Samantha Laverty, Board Secretary